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Morrosoni

January 21, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Over the past three years, Microsoft and the Department of Justice have waged a veritable war in the federal courts. Six months of round-the-clock negotiations were necessary before a settlement could finally be reached, and I still do not think Microsoft has been treated fairly. Nevertheless, this has gone on long enough, and I think it's time for the Justice Department to move on.

Microsoft agreed to terms under the settlement that extend to products and procedures that the Court of Appeals did not find to be unlawful. In other words, Microsoft has been generous, and I do not believe the Department of Justice should press the issue. Microsoft has agreed, for example, to license its Windows operating system to twenty of the largest computer makers on identical terms and conditions. Microsoft has also agreed to disclose source code and interfaces to its competitors for their use. The competitors will then be able to introduce their software directly into Windows.

Microsoft is willing to settle on these terms, and I believe it is in the best public interest to do so. No turther action needs to be taken on the federal level. This has gone on long enough; it's high time to move on. I urge you to support the settlement.

Sincerely,

Karen Wadsworth

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